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WASHINGTON LETTER.

[From an Operational Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17, 1887. There are ten books in the seeret archives of the United States Patent Office for which attorneys in Washington would be willing to give \$100,000. They are the books containing the names and addresses of inventors whose cases have been rejected during the past ten years There has been an average of 28, 000 cases filed in the Patent Office every year for the last ten years and a yearly average of 18,000 patents granted. Last year there were 35,000 applications filed and 24,000 patents issued, the largest number in any one year. On this showing something like 60 per cent, of the applications have been patented. So there have been during the last ten years about 100,000 rejected cases. These in part include cases defeated in interferences and applications allowed, but on which final fees have not been paid.

Now good attorneys get fully 90 per cent, of their cases allowed and patented; hence there must be some reason for only 60 per cent. of the applications being allowed. The reason is this: Fully 8,000 inventors every year make out their own cases and try to get them through the Patent Office. Not meshes of red tape and the intricacies of Patent Office procedure The difficulty may be slight, a mere informality, a defective drawing, an improperly worded application, an indefinite specification, or

a slight interference requiring a few amendments which a skillful patent attorney could make in half an hour. But to the inventor these prove an insurmountable oband he gives up in disgust or de-

Applications for patents in the United States Patent Office go first to the twenty-eight principal examiners, according to the subject matter. If they are rejected, two years are allowed in which to amend them or take other necessary action. If no action shall have been Fully 50,000 of the rejected cases are inexhaustible. of the last ten years fall under torney, could be patented. A pattional cases would be about \$25 per case-a gross sum of \$625,000. Count cut disgusted inventors and those not able to pay, still an enormous number would get out patents if they knew how. But the tronble is just here, no one outside the Patent Office is allowed access to those file books And without them they cannot learn the name and address of inventors. Then again, there are some 15,000 cases now lying in the Examiner's rooms awaiting the two years' limit. These are still more valuable, for if they are taken up before the timeimit expires, the initial fees do not lapse, while in the other cases they

The practice in the United States Parent Office was not always thus. During Grant's first term, for a period of about a year, attorneys were allowed access to all letter books, and previous to that had been allowed access to the files of abandoned cases, but there was a constant scramble and not infrequently dewnright fights over them, and about 1875 the Patent Office made them secret.

would have to be repaid.

The Idaho Test Oath.

The test oath required of every official in Idaho brings to the front an amu-ing phase of polities, as illustrated by the following extract from the Wood River Times. Some of the county officials-elect filed their bonds today and will when Mrs. Butler came to the Court House to qualify as School Superintendent, she asked for a copy of the oath. Glancing over it curiously, she was about to sign it. when her eye rested upon the phrise, "that I do not cohabit with as y woman not my lawful wife." She thereupon blushed, coughed slightly, and asked if there was not another form of outh. She will

qualify tomorrow.

A DISPICABLE THIEF. A Man Collects Money for a Fu-

neral and Decamps. Yesterday a warrant was issued for the arrest of Jeff Howard a negro charged with embezzlement He went about town collecting money for the funeral of the late Henry Bailey, and after collecting about \$25 disappeared without paying any of the funeral bills. The officers are on his trail and wil doubtless bring him in in the morning. It is the general opinion in this city that it is high time to make an example of creatures of his stamp. This is not the first time in Carson that such contempt ible thievery has been indulged in by men who seem unable to get their hands on money without appropriating it. If the fellow is captured he will probably be made to serve a term in the pententiary. say that they will prosecute the should be considered. case until they make an example of !

Ren. Perley Poore's Fortheaming Book.

ture offenders.

Sixty years of a busy journalistic life at Washington are epitomized in Major Ben. Perley Poore's forthknowing the routine they almost coming book. One of the admirers invariably get involved in the of the Major recently said that at a "judiciously ripe period of life the Major stopped growing old, and since then, like some of the choice much feeling, he has only been ac- sor." cumulating bouquet and flavor." Major Poore has been one of the best known and one of the most knowing men in Washington society for half a century His is the sunny temperament, delighting in stacle; his application is rejected bright, social intercourse. Yet his connection with daily journalism and his position in the United applied for a divorce. States Senate placed him always in social gossip. He was ever in the Washington "Swim," breasting the waves with jovial vigor, and never said or done.

The Major could naver be very taken at the end of two years, such solemn, and in his ripened sketches cases are treated as abandoned, and of Washington life every phase reare sent to the division where they | minds him of half a dozen amusing are entered in the books which the anecdotes. He has a rare gift in Patent Attorneys so much covet. telling a story, and his anecdotes

His book will not only add lustre these conditions. At a low esti- to his fame as a writer, but is of so mate 25,000 of these rejected cases unique a character and so intensely put in the hands of a competent at- interesting in matter that it will prove a valuable contribution to the ent atterney's fees on such condi- literature of the country. It has murth for the murthful, wit for the witty, information for all, and we doubt if it has been equalled by any subscription book since the

> It is being issued by the wellknown house of A L. Bancroft & Co., San Francisco, Cal., and sold exclusively by subscription.

Gullty Conscience Ma es Cowards.

"Hey, there! You've got my umbrella. I've found it at last, have I?" exclaimed a large-sized man in a loud and menacing tone, as he stood in a doorway in one of the principal streets one rainy morning recently while a number of pedestrians were hurrying past. A dozen men turned at once on hearing him, and came towards him, holding out their ambrellas and making profuse apologies. With the air of an injured individual, the large man selected a fine silk one from among the number, and the procession moved on again.

MOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on the first day of January, 1887, the co-partnership theretofore existing between the undersigned in the by mutual consent, Jacob Leonhard retiring from the business and George Dies taking full charge of qualify tomorrow. It is stated that the same. All debts of the firm will be paid by Dies, and all moneys owing by said firm will be paid by him.

Surprise Party.

A large number of boys and girls assembled at Senator Maute's residence on Thursday evening last. It was a surprise party given in honor of Miss Addie Maute. Those present enjoyed a splendid time.

-Under the Inter-State Commerce Bill the rate from Reno to San Francisco will be about \$8.

ALL SORTS.

-Wells has been visited by a cyclone.

-There are parties and receptions almost eyery night, and more are announced for the coming week. Everybody seems to be enjoying themselves on all sides.

-Let it be positively understood that Schneider & Simas, the photographers opposite the Mint, are the artists selected to make the official State group for 1887.

-DIED-In Carson City, January 22, 1887, Napoleon X., son of Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Spooner, aged 9 years and one month, The funeral will take place from the Catholic Church teday at 3 o'clock

-Ayer's Sarsaparilla, being highly concentrated, requires a smailer dose, and is more effective, dose for There are plenty of witnesses who dose, than any other blood medigave him half a dollar or a dellar cine. It is the cheanest, because towards the old man's funeral who the best. Quality and not quantity

-Aver's Pills cure constinution. this man for all previous and fx- improve the appetite, promote digestion, restore healthy action, and regulate every function. They are pleasant to take, gentle in their operation, yet thorough, searching, and powerful in subduing disease.

-Pete Breen is the new State Treasurer of Colorado, who brings honesty and a rich brogue to the discharge of his duties. He says:

"Oi know but little about bookkaping and the loike, but begorras Madeira of which he writes with so not a cint can get away from me

> -A female Union printer in Galveston muried a non-Union printer. In the pale and pretty honeymoon she tried to have him join the Typegraphical Union, and be wouldn't. He was thereupon boycotted by all the labor unions in the city, and by his wife, who has

-The Salt Lake Tribune in the thick of political affairs and speaking of the Cliff House explo sion says: "Had every memory which clusters around the place weighed an ounce apiece, the explofailing to hear and see what was sion of 100,000 pounds of dynamite would not have been enough to jar it." The above leads us to infer that the Judge ran things pretty high in his younger days.

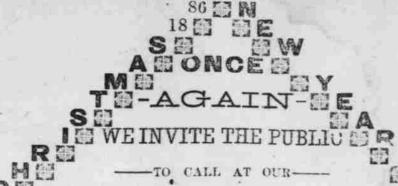
> -Herrmann the Wizard is the next theatrical attraction here. One of his most attractive tricks is to cause the disppearance of his wife who vanishes like a flash of light into the air. All this is alluiing to the hen-pecked husbana buthe chances are that before unto night she turns up again with the regular curtain lecture, as big as

-The proposition of having three lawyers to establish harmonious relations between the compiled Laws and Constitution looks like rather a rough joke on the various Judiciary Committees which have scrutinized the legal bills during previous Legislatures. But would the lawyers establish the desired harmony? The lack of harmony between the code and the Constitution is what enables the lawyer to dress in purple and fine linen, and fare sumptuously every day.

-It is to be hoped that when another public man dies, says the San Francisco Aita, the new wirers will spare us the minute descriptions of death-bed sorrows and sighs and tears and farewells. All human beings take it for granted that while death is clutching at a man's throat. his wife and family are not bilari ous, nor or they probably at a ball or a circus. But few men and wo men are there who have not felt the keen and heavy dolours of similar scenes, and they don't gioat upon the description of the experi euce of others The newsgatherer has come to consider his duty un done unless he describes the under butcher business, and meat market clothes at a wedding and the shroud known as the Union Market, in at a funeral. He is too hyperdes-Carson City, Nevada, was dissolved eriptive. He will please not make us tired.

Carriages.

Doc. Benton wishes to call attention that persons who wish to hire close carriages for balls and receptions during the Legislative session will do well to inspect his facilities -elegant carriages, spirited horses and experienced drivers, at Benton's livery stable.



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